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NOVEMBER 29.

Dr. R. S. KENDERDINE in the chair.

Thirty-one persons present.

The special business of the meeting being the nomination of officers, councillors and members of the Finance Committee, a letter from Dr. W. S. W. Ruschenberger was read, declining to be a candidate for re-election to the office of President, whereupon a committee, consisting of Messrs. Isaac C. Martindale, S. R. Roberts and J. H. Redfield, was appointed to prepare a suitable expression of the Academy's appreciation of Dr. Ruschenberger's services to the society.

DECEMBER 6.

Mr. THOS. MEEHAN, Vice-President, in the chair.

Thirty-six persons present.

The genus Carterella vs. *Spongiophaga Pottsi*.—Mr. EDWARD POTTS referred to a paper (On *Spongiophaga Pottsi* n. sp., Ann. and Mag. of Nat. Hist., Nov., 1881) by H. J. Carter, F. R. S., etc., in which that eminent scientist gives an interpretation, differing from his own, of the statosphere tendrils which form the characteristic feature of the new genus of fresh-water sponges to which Mr. Carter's name had been attached in recognition of his very distinguished services. He wished to consider the subject entirely apart from its personal relation to themselves; and only as it concerned the stability of a genus, in which, as he claimed, for the first time in the history of fresh-water sponges, these tendrils had been noticed as distinctive features.

He then, at some length, gave his reasons why we should not accept Mr. Carter's theory of the parasitic nature of these tendrils or filaments; saying, that of the two points in the paper most likely to impress a student who had not seen specimens of the genus referred to, or one unfamiliar with the general subject, the *first* was founded upon certain appearances represented in figure 2 of Mr. Carter's plate. This figure shows an "axial canal" through the centre of the filament, widening into the "tubular prolongation from the process of the chitinous coat" of the statosphere and representing the supposable digestive tract of the animal parasite.

As after repeated and very careful examination of numerous specimens, both in a fresh condition and after being subjected to